AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Cancelled)**

2. **(Currently amended)** ~~The communication system as claimed in claim 1,~~

A communication system in which a transmitting station and a receiving station are communicably connected through a transmission path, and the receiving station reserves a bandwidth used in data communication for the transmitting station in advance, wherein

said transmitting station transmits a reservation request packet for bandwidth reservation to said receiving station when data to be transmitted is generated,

said receiving station reserves the bandwidth in response to the reservation request packet from said transmitting station, and transmits a communication reservation packet for informing said transmitting station of the reserved bandwidth,

said transmitting station creates a data packet according to the generated data, and transmits the created data packet through the bandwidth informed by the communication reservation packet from said receiving station,

said receiving station stores a valid period of the bandwidth reserved for said transmitting station, and voluntarily and repeatedly transmits the communication reservation packet to said transmitting station during the stored valid period,

~~wherein~~ an initial value of the valid period stored for said transmitting station is predetermined, and

said receiving station further

shortens the stored valid period with given timing,

lengthens the stored valid period on reception of the data packet from said transmitting station,

deletes the valid period when the valid period is equal to a predetermined reference value, and

voluntarily and repeatedly transmits the communication reservation packet to said transmitting station as long as the valid period is stored.

3. **(Original)** The communication system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said transmitting station further sets an identifier assigned thereto to the reservation request packet, and

said receiving station further

stores the identifier set to the reservation request packet transmitted from said transmitting station together with the initial value of the valid period, and

when deletes the valid period, deletes the stored identifier together therewith.

4. **(Currently amended)** ~~The communication system as claimed in claim 1,~~

A communication system in which a transmitting station and a receiving station are communicably connected through a transmission path, and the receiving station reserves a bandwidth used in data communication for the transmitting station in advance, wherein

said transmitting station transmits a reservation request packet for bandwidth reservation to said receiving station when data to be transmitted is generated,

said receiving station reserves the bandwidth in response to the reservation request packet from said transmitting station, and transmits a communication reservation packet for informing said transmitting station of the reserved bandwidth,

said transmitting station creates a data packet according to the generated data, and transmits the created data packet through the bandwidth informed by the communication reservation packet from said receiving station,

said receiving station stores a valid period of the bandwidth reserved for said transmitting station, and voluntarily and repeatedly transmits the communication reservation packet to said transmitting station during the stored valid period,

~~wherein~~ said receiving station further transmits, with given timing, a request inquiry packet for allowing said transmitting station to transmit the reservation request packet, and

said transmitting station further transmits the reservation request packet in response to the request inquiry packet transmitted from said receiving station.

5. **(Original)** The communication system as claimed in claim 4, wherein said receiving station further sets, to the request inquiry packet, a probability that said transmitting station can transmit the reservation request packet, and

said transmitting station further transmits the reservation request packet according to the probability value included in the request inquiry packet transmitted from said receiving station.

6. **(Original)** The communication system as claimed in claim 5, wherein, when said receiving station detected a communication collision on said transmission path, the probability value set to the request inquiry packet is relatively low.

7. **(Original)** The communication system as claimed in claim 5, wherein, when said receiving station correctly received the reservation request packet from said transmission path, the probability value set to the request inquiry packet is relatively high.

8. **(Original)** The communication system as claimed in claim 5, wherein, when no signal arrives the receiving station from said transmission path for a given time period, the probability set to the request inquiry packet is relatively high.

9. **(Original)** The communication system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said receiving station further changes a time interval between two communication reservation packets according to the valid period.

10. **(Currently amended)** ~~The communication system as claimed in claim 1,~~

A communication system in which a transmitting station and a receiving station are communicably connected through a transmission path, and the receiving station reserves a bandwidth used in data communication for the transmitting station in advance, wherein

said transmitting station transmits a reservation request packet for bandwidth reservation to said receiving station when data to be transmitted is generated,

said receiving station reserves the bandwidth in response to the reservation request packet from said transmitting station, and transmits a communication reservation packet for informing said transmitting station of the reserved bandwidth,

said transmitting station creates a data packet according to the generated data, and transmits the created data packet through the bandwidth informed by the communication reservation packet from said receiving station,

said receiving station stores a valid period of the bandwidth reserved for said transmitting station, and voluntarily and repeatedly transmits the communication reservation packet to said transmitting station during the stored valid period, and

~~wherein~~ said receiving station further changes a time interval between two communication reservation packets according to a transfer rate required by said transmitting station.

11. **(Currently amended)** ~~The communication system as claimed in claim 1,~~

A communication system in which a transmitting station and a receiving station are communicably connected through a transmission path, and the receiving station reserves a bandwidth used in data communication for the transmitting station in advance, wherein

said transmitting station transmits a reservation request packet for bandwidth reservation to said receiving station when data to be transmitted is generated,

said receiving station reserves the bandwidth in response to the reservation request packet from said transmitting station, and transmits a communication reservation packet for informing said transmitting station of the reserved bandwidth,

said transmitting station creates a data packet according to the generated data, and transmits the created data packet through the bandwidth informed by the communication reservation packet from said receiving station,

said receiving station stores a valid period of the bandwidth reserved for said transmitting station, and voluntarily and repeatedly transmits the communication reservation packet to said transmitting station during the stored valid period, and

~~wherein,~~ when no signal arrives the receiving station from said transmission path for a given time period, said receiving station further judges that the communication reservation packet can be transmitted.

Claims 12-13 **(Cancelled)**

14. **(Currently amended)** ~~The communication system as claimed in claim 1,~~

A communication system in which a transmitting station and a receiving station are communicably connected through a transmission path, and the receiving station reserves a bandwidth used in data communication for the transmitting station in advance, wherein

said transmitting station transmits a reservation request packet for bandwidth reservation to said receiving station when data to be transmitted is generated,

said receiving station reserves the bandwidth in response to the reservation request packet from said transmitting station, and transmits a communication reservation packet for informing said transmitting station of the reserved bandwidth,

said transmitting station creates a data packet according to the generated data, and transmits the created data packet through the bandwidth informed by the communication reservation packet from said receiving station,

said receiving station stores a valid period of the bandwidth reserved for said transmitting station, and voluntarily and repeatedly transmits the communication reservation packet to said transmitting station during the stored valid period, and

~~wherein,~~ when no signal arrives the receiving station from said transmission path for a given time period, said transmitting station further judges that the reservation request packet can be transmitted.

15. **(Cancelled)**

16. **(Currently amended)** ~~The communication system as claimed in claim 1,~~

A communication system in which a transmitting station and a receiving station are communicably connected through a transmission path, and the receiving station reserves a bandwidth used in data communication for the transmitting station in advance, wherein

said transmitting station transmits a reservation request packet for bandwidth reservation to said receiving station when data to be transmitted is generated,

said receiving station reserves the bandwidth in response to the reservation request packet from said transmitting station, and transmits a communication reservation packet for informing said transmitting station of the reserved bandwidth,

said transmitting station creates a data packet according to the generated data, and transmits the created data packet through the bandwidth informed by the communication reservation packet from said receiving station,

said receiving station stores a valid period of the bandwidth reserved for said transmitting station, and voluntarily and repeatedly transmits the communication reservation packet to said transmitting station during the stored valid period, and

~~wherein~~ said transmitting station further measures a lapse of time after transmitted the data packet, and

when the lapse of time becomes equal to a reference value relevant to the valid period, judges that the reservation request packet can be transmitted.

Claims 17-18 **(Cancelled)**

19. **(Currently amended)** ~~The communication system as claimed in claim 1,~~

A communication system in which a transmitting station and a receiving station are communicably connected through a transmission path, and the receiving station reserves a bandwidth used in data communication for the transmitting station in advance, wherein

said transmitting station transmits a reservation request packet for bandwidth reservation to said receiving station when data to be transmitted is generated,

said receiving station reserves the bandwidth in response to the reservation request packet from said transmitting station, and transmits a communication reservation packet for informing said transmitting station of the reserved bandwidth,

said transmitting station creates a data packet according to the generated data, and transmits the created data packet through the bandwidth informed by the communication reservation packet from said receiving station,

said receiving station stores a valid period of the bandwidth reserved for said transmitting station, and voluntarily and repeatedly transmits the communication reservation packet to said transmitting station during the stored valid period, and

~~wherein~~ said transmitting station determines numbers of the communication reservation packets to be transmitted, and transmits the communication reservation packets according to the determined numbers.